

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 NEAE-00 /013 W

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O 231325Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4769

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUWAIT 0919

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, KU

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPEMENT CO.  
(CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST)

REF: STATE 41266

1. REFTEL REQUESTS INFORMATION ON YOUSUF ABDULAZIZ AL-WAZZAN (SPELLED WAZZEL IN CABLE) AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPEMENT COMPANY. EMBASSY FILES AND CHECKS WITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND TWO LOCAL BANKS PRODUCED NO INFORMATION ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPEMENT COMPANY.

2. YOUSUF ABDULAZIZ AL-WAZZAN IS PROMINENT BUSINESSMAN AND MEMBER OF LEADING MERCHANT FAMILY IN KUWAIT. BANK REFERENCES AIST HIM AS OWNER OF HOURIAH PRINTING PRESS, PARTNER IN MODERN LIGHTS EXHIBITION, SMALL ELECTRIAL AND APPLIANCE SHOP, AND PARTNER IN TRAVEL AGENCY WHICH SERVES AS REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQI AIRWAYS. BANKS SAY AL-WAZZAN CONSIDERED RELIABLE IN HIS BUSINESS DEALINGS. HIS IS BROTHER OF MOHAMAD ABDULAZIZ AL-WAZZAN, DIRECTOR OF AL-AHLI BANK OF KUWAIT. COMMENT: AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, KUWAIT PRIVATE SECTOR HAS CONSIDERABLE CAPITAL FOR INVESTMENT OVERSEAS. FACT THAT EMBASSY AND OTHER LOCAL SOURCES NOT FAMILIAR WITH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPEMENT COMPANY NOT RPT NOT NECESSARILY CAUSE FOR SUSPICION. IN PAST TWO YEARS MANY SMALL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN KUWAIT AND KEEPING TRACK OF ALL IS IMPOSSIBLE. IF STATE WISHES WE CAN PURSUE THIS FURTHER BY MAKING INQUIRIES DIRECTLY WITH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPEMENT CO.

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